



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

# News Release



**For Immediate Release**

May 15, 2015

For more information

Call (831) 338-8883

## **JUNE ACTIVITIES AT BIG BASIN REDWOODS STATE PARK**

Located 9 miles outside of Boulder Creek on Hwy 236 (831) 338-8883

### **Redwood Loop Walk**

**Every Saturday and Sunday at 11 am and 2 pm**

How do these grand redwoods grow to be so old? So tall? How are they important to humans? Join us for this fun and informative guided half-mile stroll through a magnificent old-growth redwood forest. Meet the famous Mother Tree, the Father of the Forest and the incredible Chimney Tree on this 90-minute walk. Stroller and wheelchair accessible. Meet at Park Headquarters.

### **Evening Campfire Program (*special guest campfires; see below!*)**

**Tuesday, June 2 at 7 pm**

**Saturday, June 6 at 7 pm**

**June 12-June 30—Monday, Tuesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 7 pm**

Join us in our historic campfire center for an evening of song and story. Serenade the glittering stars and learn about redwood ecology, creatures of the forest or stories of the park while relaxing in the shadows of the towering trees. Fire lighting and marshmallows (we provide the sticks and marshmallows!) at 7 pm; program begins at 7:30 pm. Wheelchair, stroller accessible. Good dogs welcome!

### **Special Guest Campfire!**

#### **Nature's Supermarket Campfire**

**Tuesday, June 2, Tuesday, June 16, Tuesday, June 23 and Tuesday, June 30 at 7 pm**

How would you make dinner if you lived in Big Basin 500 years ago? No supermarkets, no stoves, not even pots and pans.... Join Ranger Alex Takone to find out how as we take a look at Nature's Supermarket and make dinner the way it was done by the native Ohlone people 500 years ago! You even get to taste our creation!

### **Special Guest Campfire!**

#### **From the Tall to the Small—The Unique Coast Redwoods in Big Basin**

**Friday, June 12 at 7 pm**

Zane Moore, a redwood researcher, will speak about Big Basin's tallest tree in the world south of San Francisco, and then discuss the extremely rare albino redwoods, considered by some to be

the redwood's biggest mystery. And join Zane for a walk on Saturday, June 13 at 12:30 to see how scientists measure these, tall, tall trees!

**Special Guest Campfire!**  
**In the Company of Redwoods**  
**Saturday, June 27 at 7 pm**

Come learn about the plants of the redwood community with David Casterson, naturalist and author of *In the Company of Redwoods*, a book designed as a guide to learning the features, natural history and botany of redwood community plants. David will bring colored pencils and photocopies of plants from his book common along the trails of the park. In addition to learning more about these plants, participants will take home their own hand tinted notecards! And join David for a walk Sunday morning at 9:30 to get an up-close look at the plants he talks about at the campfire.

**Twilight Adventure**  
**Wednesday, June 17 at 7:30 pm**  
**Wednesday, June 24 at 7:30 pm**

Twilight is a special time that marks the end of day and the beginning of night. Join us for an easy, level walk for the whole family and experience the forest at dusk. This is a 1.5-hour, half-mile walk. Wheelchair/stroller accessible. Sorry, no dogs on the trail. Meet at Park Headquarters.

**Drop-In Style Afternoon Campfire Program**  
**Thursday, June 18 from 4:30-5:30 pm**  
**Thursday, June 25 from 4:30-5:30 pm**

Drop by anytime between 4:30-5:30 pm at our historic campfire and enjoy roasting ranger apples, music and crafts! Touch and learn about the skulls and pelts of Big Basin animals.

**Planet Walk**  
**Thursday, June 18 at 6:30 pm**  
**Thursday, June 25 at 6:30 pm**

Help Professor Cosma find the perfect planet for her upcoming vacation. Learn a bit about our solar system as we take a planet walk. This is an easy one-hour stroll for the whole family. Meet at Park Headquarters.

**Junior Rangers**  
**June 1-June 14—Saturday at 3 pm and Sunday at 11 am**  
**June 15-June 30—Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday at 3 pm and Sunday at 11 am**

Discover the fascinating secrets of the forest! Explore, practice outdoor skills and play games as you learn about plants, animals, geology, and more. This one-hour program is designed for kids ages 7-12. Sorry parents, this program is for kids only! Please register your child at the Nature Lodge 15 minutes before the program begins. Please be sure your child is dressed for active play in the outdoors.

**Special Two-Hour Junior Rangers**  
**Thursday, June 18 at 10 am**  
**Thursday, June 25 at 10 am**

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This special Junior Rangers is for kids ages 7-12 only. We'll be taking a hike, so make sure your Junior Ranger dresses appropriately, with closed-toe shoes. Please register your child 15 minutes before the program at the Nature Lodge.

### **Big Basin Nature Club**

**June 1-June 14—Saturday at 4:30 pm and Sunday at 10 am**

**June 15-June 30—Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday at 4:30 pm,  
Thursday at 1:30 pm and Sunday at 10 am**

This fun program is designed for children ages 3-6 and their families. Pretend, play, sing and explore! This half-hour program will introduce youngsters to the wonders of the redwood forest. Meet at the Nature Lodge.

### **ASK US!**

#### **Visitor Center Staffed**

**Saturdays 10-12; Sundays 12-2**

Do you have questions about Big Basin? Want trail information? Information about the plants and animals you see? Come to the Visitor Center, next to Park Headquarters, to get answers!

### **Meteor Trail Hike**

**Saturday, June 6 at 10:30 am**

Join docent Peggy O'Shea on one of our most diverse hikes—by mountain streams, oak woodlands, chaparral and redwoods. You'll discuss forests, flowers and fires on a six-mile, 3.5-hour hike. This somewhat strenuous ascent is rewarded with ocean views on a clear day. Bring water, lunch and good hiking shoes. Meet at Park Headquarters.

### **Discover Big Basin Redwoods Hike!**

**Saturday, June 6 at 12 pm**

**Sunday, June 13 at 12 pm**

**Sunday, June 21 at 12 pm**

**Sunday, June 28 at 12 pm**

Explore some of the park's less travelled backcountry with docent naturalist Barry Grimm. This hike will be individually tailored to your group—so distance can vary from 2 to 8 miles, depending on your needs. The pace is always moderate—with occasional short stops to discover the park's unique animals, plants and other natural features. Based on group size, experience level and weather conditions, we will choose from the many trails that explore the park's most scenic areas. Dress in layers for changeable weather and temperatures. Bring sturdy walking shoes, water and trail snacks. Meet at Park Headquarters.

### **The Road Less Traveled—A Dog-Friendly Walk**

**Sunday, June 7 at 9:30 am**

**Sunday, June 14 at 10 am**

On this dog-, stroller- and wheelchair-friendly walk, we travel on North Escape Road, a paved road closed to traffic. We tour stunning old-growth redwood groves along beautiful Opal Creek. We'll discuss redwood ecology and park history while exploring the deep shade of the redwood forest. This is a fun, easy, three-mile, two-hour roundtrip walk with docent Diane Shaw. *Dogs not required, but welcome!* Bring water and meet at Park Headquarters.

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### **Sense-O-Rama Hike!**

**Sunday, June 7 at 1 pm**

Sense-O-Rama is a one and a half hour hike traveling along the lovely Creeping Forest and Dool trails. We will appreciate the sights, sounds, smells, feel and even taste of Big Basin, enhancing your experience of the forest. Docent Maura McNamara will lead you on the 3.5-mile hike. Come and open your senses!

### **Volunteer with the Trail Crew**

**Saturday, June 13 at 9 am**

Since 1969 the Big Basin Volunteer Trail Crew has helped make it possible for others to safely enjoy the beauty of our park. The Trail Crew meets the second Saturday of each month, rain or shine. A typical workday lasts until mid-afternoon. Please bring your own work gloves, lunch and water. Join us for a unique perspective of Big Basin, a lively and productive experience with others who share a love of these redwood forests, and the satisfaction of participating in a vital part of the park's ability to educate and inspire the public! Meet at Park Headquarters.

### **Family Walk in the Redwood Forest**

**Saturday, June 13 at 10:30 am**

Docent Catherine Stewart leads you on a slow, one-mile roundtrip walk into the redwood forest. While stopping to discover what makes a redwood tree so special, we'll try some simple sketches of the trees and the forest. This tour is geared towards families, so bring water and snacks. The walk lasts about 1 1/4 hours. Meet at Park Headquarters.

### **Measuring Tall Trees**

**Saturday, June 13 at 12:30 pm**

How do you measure the tallest trees in the world? Join Zane Moore, a redwood researcher, to learn about measuring these tall, tall trees. Zane will show you how scientists determine the height, size, and ages of these trees. We will look at the history and future directions of tree measurement from cameras to lasers to drones. This 1-mile, 90-minute walk will take us to where technology and trees meet.

### **Berry Creek Falls Hike**

**Sunday, June 14 at 9:30 am**

Travel deep into the heart of Big Basin as you experience a wide range of habitats on this moderate to strenuous 11-mile-loop hike. Wind through shady redwood canyons and climb dry ridges as you hike to the jewel of Big Basin—65-foot Berry Creek Falls. Bring lots of water, lunch and wear layers. Docent Bill Rhoades will guide you on this seven-hour hike. Meet at Park Headquarters.

### **Coffee Talk and Crafts**

**Saturday, June 20 from 9-noon**

**Saturday, June 27 from 9-noon**

Come to the Sempervirens Room next to Park Headquarters for free coffee or hot chocolate! This is a great way to start your day in Big Basin. Docent Norm Beeson will be happy to answer your questions about the park and help get you going on the right trail. And bring the kids for a fun craft activity!

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### **Meteor Trail Hike**

**Saturday, June 20 at 9 am**

Join docent Kathy Willott on one of our most diverse hikes—by mountain streams, oak woodlands, chaparral and redwoods. You'll discuss forests, flowers and the change in environment from the low elevation to the summit on a six-mile, 3.5-hour hike. This somewhat strenuous ascent is rewarded with ocean views on a clear day. Bring water, lunch and good hiking shoes. Meet at Park Headquarters.

### **Wildflower Walk!**

**Saturday, June 20 at 10 am**

**AND Sunday, June 21 at 10 am**

Join docent Scott Peden on this slow-paced walk with lots of stops to identify flowering plants and take photos. You'll also visit several historical spots within the park. Saturday's walk is a leisurely four-mile, four-hour amble that includes two chimney trees and a waterfall. Sunday's walk is a relaxed five-mile, five-hour amble that includes a chimney tree. Bring water and lunch. Meet at Park Headquarters.

### **Here Comes the Sun!**

**Saturday, June 20 from 11 am to 1 pm**

Come to the Campfire Center and look through a solar telescope at the Sun. You'll see sunspots, solar prominences and other features of our closest star as you learn about the parts of the Sun and how it shines. There will be Sun-related activities for the kids. Conducted by Steve Widmark of the Santa Cruz Astronomy Club.

### **Nature's Reading Room**

**Saturday, June 20 from 1-3 pm**

Come sit under our ancient circle of redwoods—nature's reading room—and choose a book or two to read with your family. Drop by anytime between 1:00-3:00 and Docent Norm Beeson will help you find the perfect book for your family to enjoy. Nature's Reading Room is in the circle of redwoods right by the Nature Lodge/Museum (past the store).

### **Can You Survive? (Part 1)**

**Sunday, June 21 from 10-3**

If you hike, bike, camp or ride horses, then you should have a working knowledge of modern wilderness survival. Join docent Steve Stolper for a hands-on workshop to learn modern wilderness survival techniques. These skills help you survive a short-term (1 to 3 days) survival situation. We cover the psychology of survival, risk assessment, the "Rule of 3s," equipment and shelter. In Part 2 on Sunday, June 28, we cover fire, signaling, and water purification. Please dress as you would for a day-hike. Wear clothes that can get dirty. Bring at least one liter of water, lunch, and snacks. Rain cancels. Meet at Park Headquarters.

### **The Men of Big Basin—A Father's Day Special Event**

**Sunday, June 21 at 1 pm**

Celebrate Father's Day by honoring some of the remarkable men who lived in, worked in and fought for Big Basin. Living history re-enactments bring you back in time where you'll meet pioneer settlers, Big Basin founders and early park rangers. Stroll through the magnificent

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redwoods on this half-mile, 1.5-hour guided walk. Wheelchair and stroller accessible. Meet at Park Headquarters.

### **Snakes Alive!**

**Saturday, June 27 from 12-3 pm**

Why are snakes important to us? How do they see, smell, taste, hear? What and how do they eat? What does a snake feel like? Come to the Old Lodge, across the street from the Nature Lodge/Museum, and meet Docent Diane Shaw and learn about the fascinating world of snakes. Stop by anytime to meet the snakes and talk to Diane. Snake crafts for the kids too!

### **Family Discovery Walk**

**Saturday, June 27 at 1 pm**

Join docent Norm Beeson for a fun-filled family walk and investigate the mysteries and wonders of Big Basin's redwood forest! We'll discover what surprises the day offers on this easy, one-mile roundtrip walk that lasts about 1.5 hours. Bring water, a snack and an adventurous spirit! Meet at Park Headquarters.

### **In the Company of Redwoods**

**Sunday, June 28 at 9:30 am**

Come learn about the plants of the redwood community with David Casterson, naturalist and author of *In the Company of Redwoods*, a book designed as a guide to learning the features, natural history and botany of redwood community plants. David will bring colored pencils and photocopies of plants from his book common along the trails of the park. In addition to learning more about these plants, participants will take home their own hand tinted notecards!

### **Can You Survive? (Part 2)**

**Sunday, June 28 from 10-3**

If you hike, bike, camp or ride horses, then you should have a working knowledge of modern wilderness survival. Join docent Steve Stolper for a hands-on workshop to learn modern wilderness survival techniques. These skills help you survive a short-term (1 to 3 days) survival situation. In part 2 we cover fire, signaling, and water purification. If you missed Part 1, that's okay! Please dress as you would for a day-hike. Wear clothes that can get dirty. Bring at least one liter of water, lunch, and snacks. Rain cancels. Meet at Park Headquarters.

### **Meteor Trail Hike**

**Sunday, June 28 at 11:30 am**

Join docent Hal Anjo on one of our most diverse hikes—by mountain streams, oak woodlands, chaparral and redwoods. You'll discuss forests, flowers and fires on a six-mile, 3.5-hour hike. This somewhat strenuous ascent is rewarded with ocean views on a clear day. Bring water, lunch and good hiking shoes. Meet at Park Headquarters.

Co-Sponsored by California State Parks and Mountain Parks Foundation

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